REMARKS AND ARGUMENTS

Claims 1, 3, 8, 10, 15, and 17 have been amended. Claims 7, 14 and 21 have been cancelled. No claims are added.

Claims 1-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Dennie (U.S. Patent No. 6,341,338).

Independent claims 1, 8 and 15:

Amended independent claim 1 includes the elements "… allocating a memory buffer in which to store at least some portion of the data frame, the memory buffer pointed to by a pointer associated with a first communication protocol software module (CPSM); … accessing the at least some portion of the data frame in the memory buffer point to by the pointer associated with the first CPSM to process the data frame by the first CPSM; transferring the pointer associated with the first CPSM from the first CPSM to associate with a second CPSM and thus transferring control of processing the data frame in the memory buffer from the first CPSM to the second CPSM; and accessing the at least some portion of data frame in the memory buffer pointed to by the pointer associated with the second CPSM to process the data frame by the second CPSM." (Emphasis added).

Amended independent claim 8 includes the elements "… means for allocating a memory buffer in which to store at least some portion of the data frame, the memory buffer pointed to by a pointer associated with a first communication protocol software module (CPSM); … means for accessing the at least some portion of the data frame in the memory buffer point to by the pointer associated with the first CPSM to process the data frame by the first CPSM; means for transferring the pointer associated with the first CPSM from the first CPSM to associate with a second CPSM and thus transferring

control of processing the data frame in the memory buffer from the first CPSM to the second CPSM; and means for accessing the at least some portion of data frame in the memory buffer pointed to by the pointer associated with the second CPSM to process the data frame by the second CPSM." (Emphasis added).

Amended independent claim 21 includes the elements "... allocate a memory buffer in which to store at least some portion of the data frame, the memory buffer pointed to by a pointer associated with a first communication protocol software module (CPSM); ... access the at least some portion of the data frame in the memory buffer point to by the pointer associated with the first CPSM to process the data frame by the first CPSM; transfer the pointer associated with the first CPSM from the first CPSM to associate with a second CPSM and thus transfer control of processing the data frame in the memory buffer from the first CPSM to the second CPSM; and access the at least some portion of data frame in the memory buffer pointed to by the pointer associated with the second CPSM to process the data frame by the second CPSM." (Emphasis added).

Dennie discloses methods, systems and articles of manufacture to coordinate distribution of shared memory to threads of control executing in a program by using a cooperative synchronization protocol. In Dennie, blocks of the shared memory space are allocated to the threads serially (Col 3, lines 9-11). When a thread requires memory, a request is processed and if available, the thread, each associated a unique identifier, is allocated the next available block in the shared memory space (Col 3, lines 13-17, Figures 2 - 4). In other words, the shared memory is divided into multiple memory blocks, each corresponding to a specific unique identifier. When a thread requests a buffer block within this shared memory, the file allocation table (FAT) determines if any memory block is available and unused, thus assigning a buffer block to the thread requesting the

Attorney's Docket Number: 42.P9928

block. Thus, when a thread secures a block of memory by receiving an assignment of a block from the FAT, a pointer in FAT will increment to the next available memory block so that an unused block of memory can be ready to be assigned upon the next request (Col. 5, lines 51-55). Dennie does not disclose a buffer block within the shared memory which is shared by different threads at different times.

In Contrast, Applicant's disclosure specifically points to "… memory buffer in which to store at least some portion of the data frame, the memory buffer pointed to by a pointer associated with a first communication protocol software module (CPSM) … access … process the data frame by the first CPSM; transfer(ring) the pointer associated with the first CPSM from the first CPSM to associate with a second CPSM and thus transfer control of processing the data frame in the memory buffer from the first CPSM to the second CPSM; … access … process the data frame by the second CPSM." (Emphasis added). Therefore, Applicant discloses a buffer in memory where the data which is stored in the buffer can be accessed and controlled by a different CPSM at different times upon transferring the pointer in association with a CPSM from one CPSM to a different CPSM.

As such, Dennie fails to fully anticipate each and every element of Applicant's claims and Applicant respectfully request the withdrawal of the rejection of the claims.

Dependent Claims 2-7 and 9-20:

Claims 3, 10 and 17 are amended and claims 7, 14 and 21 are cancelled. Claims 2-6, 9-14 and 16-20 depend from claims 1, 8 and 15. For at least this reason, Applicant submits that they are allowable over Dennie and respectfully requests withdrawal of the claims.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that the rejections have been overcome by the remarks, and that the Claims are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the rejections be withdrawn and the Claims be allowed.

Invitation for a telephone interview

The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at 408-720-8300 if there remains any issue with allowance of this case.

Charge our Deposit Account

Please charge any shortage to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Date: __May 5___, 2005

_____
Gregory D. Caldwell
Reg. No. 39,926

12400 Wilshire Boulevard
Seventh Floor
Los Angeles, California 90025-1026
(408) 720-8300

-12-